

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress

1st Session

Vote No. 461

September 22, 1995, 12:40 p.m.

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LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE/Passage

SUBJECT: Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1996 . . . H.R. 1854. Agreeing to the conference report.

ACTION: CONFERENCE REPORT AGREED TO, 94-4

SYNOPSIS: The conference report to accompany H.R. 1854, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1995, will appropriate \$2.18 billion, which is \$206 million (8.4 percent) less than was appropriated in fiscal year (FY) 1995, and which is 16 percent less than the President's request. Details include the following:

- \$426.9 million for Senate operations (a 7 percent decrease); committee funding will be reduced by 15 percent; the mail account will be frozen at \$11 million; funding for the Sergeant at Arms and the Secretary of the Senate will each be reduced by 12.5 percent;
- \$671.6 million for House operations (a 7 percent increase);
- \$143 million for the Architect of the Capitol, excluding library/grounds (a 10 percent decrease); the Architect's budget request will be reduced because its accounting practices obscure both the true amount and actual purpose of some spending requests;
- \$12.4 million for the Architect of the Capitol, library/grounds (a 1 percent decrease);
- \$60.1 million for the Congressional Research Service (CRS; equal to last year's appropriations);
- \$264.6 million for the Library of Congress (excluding CRS; a 1 percent increase);
- \$374.4 million for the General Accounting Office (a 15 percent decrease; an additional 10 percent cut is planned for FY 1997);
- \$83.8 million for the Government Printing Office's (GPO's) congressional operations (a 5 percent decrease);
- \$30.3 million for other GPO operations (a 6 percent decrease);
- \$24.3 million for the Congressional Budget Office;
- \$3.6 million for the Office of Technology Assessment (an 84 percent decrease; funds are for termination costs; see vote No. 316 for related debate); and
- \$3.1 million for the Botanical Gardens (a 3 percent decrease).

(See other side)

YEAS (94)				NAYS (4)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (52 or 98%)		Democrats (42 or 93%)		Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (3 or 7%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Inhofe	Akaka	Johnston	Brown	Baucus	Gramm- ²	Pryor- ²
Ashcroft	Jeffords	Biden	Kennedy		Heflin		
Bennett	Kassebaum	Bingaman	Kerrey		Hollings		
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kerry				
Burns	Kyl	Bradley	Kohl				
Campbell	Lott	Breaux	Lautenberg				
Chafee	Lugar	Bryan	Leahy				
Coats	Mack	Bumpers	Levin				
Cochran	McCain	Byrd	Lieberman				
Cohen	McConnell	Conrad	Mikulski				
Coverdell	Murkowski	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
Craig	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
D'Amato	Packwood	Dorgan	Murray				
DeWine	Pressler	Exon	Nunn				
Dole	Roth	Feingold	Pell				
Domenici	Santorum	Feinstein	Reid				
Faircloth	Shelby	Ford	Robb				
Frist	Simpson	Glenn	Rockefeller				
Gorton	Smith	Graham	Sarbanes				
Grams	Snowe	Harkin	Simon				
Grassley	Specter	Inouye	Wellstone				
Gregg	Stevens						
Hatch	Thomas						
Hatfield	Thompson						
Helms	Thurmond						
Hutchison	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

Those favoring passage contended:

To balance the budget deep spending cuts must be made. Members could duck responsibility for deciding which accounts to cut the most simply by making across-the-board cuts, but doing so would be irresponsible. We need to prioritize spending, and make deeper reductions in areas of lesser priority. The conference report before us takes that approach. It moves line by line through the legislative branch budget to reduce legislative branch operations by almost 9 percent. The cutting will not end here; further cuts are already planned for next year. The conference report will totally eliminate the Office of Technology Assessment, will cut the General Accounting Office by 25 percent over 2 years, will cut committee staffs by 15 percent, and will cut the Sergeant at Arms, the Secretary of the Senate, and others 12.5 percent. We cannot ask Americans to take cuts in spending on them if we are not first willing to cut spending on ourselves. This bill cuts spending on Congress, it cuts it significantly, and it cuts it rationally. We are pleased to vote in favor of this conference report.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to passage.